File Code: 1570 (215)

#10-01-00-0030

Date: March 12, 2010

Gary Macfarlane Friends of the Clearwater PO Box 9241 Moscow, ID 83843

Dear Mr. Macfarlane:

This is my decision on disposition of the appeal you filed, on behalf of the Friends of the Clearwater, Wilderness Watch, and Alliance for the Wild Rockies, regarding the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness Invasive Plant Management Project Record of Decision (ROD) on the Clearwater, Nez Perce, Bitterroot, and Lolo National Forests.

My review of your appeal was conducted pursuant to, and in accordance with, 36 CFR 215.18 to ensure the analysis and decision are in compliance with applicable laws, regulations, policy, and orders. I have reviewed the appeal record, including your arguments, the information referenced in Forest Supervisor Rick Brazell's February 17, 2010, transmittal letter, and the Appeal Reviewing Officer's analysis and recommendation (copy enclosed). The transmittal letter provides the specific page references to discussions in the EIS, ROD, and project file, which bear upon your objections. I specifically incorporate into this decision the appeal record, the references and citations contained in the transmittal letter, and the Appeal Reviewing Officer's analysis and recommendation.

The Appeal Reviewing Officer has considered your arguments, the appeal record, and the transmittal letter, and recommends the Forest Supervisors' decision be affirmed and your requested relief be denied. Based upon a review of the references and citations provided by Rick Brazell, I find the objections were adequately considered in the ROD. I agree with the Appeal Reviewing Officer's analysis and conclusions in regard to your appeal objections. I find the Forest Supervisors have made a reasoned decision and have complied with all laws, regulations, and policy.

After careful consideration of the above factors, I affirm the Forest Supervisors' decision to implement the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness Invasive Plant Management Project. Your requested relief is denied. My decision constitutes the final administrative determination of the Department of Agriculture [36 CFR 215.18(c)].

Sincerely,

/s/ Jane L. Cottrell
JANE L. COTTRELL
Appeal Deciding Officer

cc: Mary C Erickson Rick Brazell





Marty J Gardner Ray G Smith Julie K King Deborah L Austin Gilbert B Gale